

House Bill 2983

Sponsored by Representative BAILEY

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Directs Department of Transportation to establish Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program for issuance of special registration plate.

Imposes surcharge per year of registration. Directs that moneys from surcharge on registration plate be transferred to Nongame Wildlife Fund.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Transportation for purpose of initiating program.

Repeals limitation on number of special registration plates department may issue at one time.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

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2 Relating to the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program; creating new provisions;
3 amending ORS 496.385 and section 2, chapter 823, Oregon Laws 2009; repealing ORS 805.202;
4 appropriating money; and declaring an emergency.

5 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

OREGON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION REGISTRATION PLATE PROGRAM

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10 **SECTION 1. Sections 2 and 3 of this 2013 Act are added to and made a part of the Oregon**
11 **Vehicle Code.**

12 **SECTION 2. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish an Oregon wildlife**
13 **conservation registration plate program to issue special registration plates called "Oregon**
14 **wildlife conservation registration plates" upon request to owners of motor vehicles registered**
15 **under ORS 803.420 (1) to observe the importance of conserving nongame wildlife in Oregon.**
16 **In addition, the department may adopt rules for issuance of Oregon wildlife conservation**
17 **registration plates for vehicles not registered under ORS 803.420 (1).**

18 **(2) In addition to any other fee authorized by law, for each Oregon wildlife conservation**
19 **registration plate issued under subsection (1) of this section, the department shall collect a**
20 **surcharge of \$30 per year of registration payable when the plate is issued and upon each**
21 **subsequent renewal of registration of a vehicle bearing the plate. The department shall dis-**
22 **tribute the surcharge as provided in section 3 of this 2013 Act.**

23 **(3) Notwithstanding ORS 803.530, Oregon wildlife conservation registration plates may be**
24 **transferred from vehicle to vehicle if the department stops issuing the plates, as long as the**
25 **plates are not so old, damaged, mutilated or otherwise rendered illegible as to be not useful**
26 **for purposes of identification.**

FUNDING FOR NONGAME WILDLIFE FUND

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NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted.
New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **SECTION 3.** (1) Moneys from the surcharge imposed by section 2 of this 2013 Act shall
2 be transferred into Nongame Wildlife Fund established under ORS 496.385 after deduction of
3 the cost of administration of the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program,
4 including but not limited to the costs of collecting the Oregon wildlife conservation regis-
5 tration plate surcharge and transferring Oregon wildlife conservation registration plates that
6 are above the normal costs of issuing, renewing and transferring registration plates in the
7 normal course of the business of the Department of Transportation.

8 (2) Moneys deposited under subsection (1) of this section are continuously appropriated
9 to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for the purpose of conserving nongame wildlife
10 in this state.

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12 **DESIGN**

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14 **SECTION 4.** (1) The Department of Transportation, after consultation with the State
15 Department of Fish and Wildlife, shall design the Oregon wildlife conservation plates issued
16 under section 2 of this 2013 Act, except that the plates must contain an image of a gray wolf.

17 (2) Except as otherwise required by subsection (1) of this section, Oregon wildlife con-
18 servation registration plates shall comply with the requirements of ORS 803.535.

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20 **APPROPRIATION**

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22 **SECTION 5.** There is appropriated to the Department of Transportation, for the biennium
23 beginning July 1, 2013, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$_____ for the purpose of
24 initiating the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program established under sec-
25 tion 2 of this 2013 Act, including but not limited to the Oregon wildlife conservation regis-
26 tration plate design, computer programming and production setup. Any portion of the
27 appropriation not used for initiating the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate pro-
28 gram shall be transferred to the account described in subsection (2) of this section.

29 (2) Notwithstanding section 3 of this 2013 Act, after deduction of the cost of adminis-
30 tration of the Oregon wildlife conservation registration plate program, as described in sec-
31 tion 3 of this 2013 Act, the department shall transfer the moneys from the surcharge
32 imposed by section 2 of this 2013 Act to an account in the General Fund until sufficient funds
33 have accumulated for the purpose described in subsection (3) of this section.

34 (3) When the department determines that moneys in sufficient amount are available in
35 the account described in subsection (2) of this section, but no later than June 30, 2015, the
36 department shall reimburse the General Fund, without interest, in an amount equal to the
37 amount appropriated from the General Fund under subsection (1) of this section. The moneys
38 used to reimburse the General Fund under this subsection may not be considered a budget
39 item on which a limitation is otherwise fixed by law, but shall be in addition to any specific
40 biennial appropriation or amount authorized to be expended from continuously appropriated
41 moneys for any biennial period.

42 (4) Any moneys remaining in the account described in subsection (2) of this section after
43 the reimbursement required under subsection (3) of this section shall be transferred to the
44 Nongame Wildlife Fund as provided in section 3 of this 2013 Act.

REPEAL

SECTION 6. ORS 805.202 is repealed.

CONFORMING AMENDMENTS

SECTION 7. Section 2, chapter 823, Oregon Laws 2009, as amended by section 8, chapter 709, Oregon Laws 2011, is amended to read:

Sec. 2. (1) The Department of Transportation shall establish a Pacific Wonderland registration plate program to issue special registration plates called “Pacific Wonderland registration plates” upon request to owners of motor vehicles registered under the provisions of ORS 803.420 (1). In addition, the department may adopt rules for issuance of Pacific Wonderland registration plates for vehicles not registered under the provisions of ORS 803.420 (1).

(2) In addition to any other fee authorized by law, for each set of Pacific Wonderland registration plates issued under subsection (1) of this section, the department shall collect a surcharge of \$100 payable when the plates are issued. The department shall transfer the moneys from the surcharge as provided in section 3, chapter 823, Oregon Laws 2009.

(3) Notwithstanding ORS 803.530, Pacific Wonderland registration plates may be transferred from vehicle to vehicle if the department stops issuing the plates, as long as the plates are not so old, damaged, mutilated or otherwise rendered illegible as to be not useful for purposes of identification.

(4) The department shall limit the total number of Pacific Wonderland registration plates to 40,000 sets of plates.

[(5) Notwithstanding ORS 805.202, until the department has issued 40,000 sets of plates under this section, the department may issue five kinds of special registration plates at any one time.]

SECTION 8. ORS 496.385 is amended to read:

496.385. (1) There is established as a separate and distinct fund in the State Treasury a Nongame Wildlife Fund. The Nongame Wildlife Fund shall consist of:

(a) An amount credited to the fund under ORS 305.690 to 305.753, which shall be transferred by the Department of Revenue to the fund.

(b) Gifts, grants and donations, in money or otherwise, for use as described in subsection (2) of this section, which the State Treasurer may solicit and accept from private and public sources and shall cause to be deposited and credited to the Nongame Wildlife Fund.

(c) Moneys deposited into the fund under section 3 of this 2013 Act.

[(c)] **(d)** Interest or other earnings on the amounts described in paragraphs *[(a) and (b)]* **(a) to (c)** of this subsection which shall inure to the benefit of the Nongame Wildlife Fund.

(2) Moneys contained in the Nongame Wildlife Fund are continuously appropriated for the purposes specified in ORS 496.390.

CAPTIONS

SECTION 9. The unit captions used in this 2013 Act are provided only for the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any legislative intent in the enactment of this 2013 Act.

EMERGENCY CLAUSE

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SECTION 10. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect on its passage.
